

July 11, 2014

Gabriel Nah  
Grants Management Specialist  
Office of Acquisition and Grants Management  
Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Mailstop #7700 Bethesda  
5600 Fishers Lane  
Rockville, MD. 20857

**Re: Aetna Medicaid's attestation of Support for State of Arizona's Application State Innovation Models: Round 2 of Funding for Test Assistance.**

Dear Mr. Nah:

It is my pleasure as the president and chief executive officer of Aetna's Medicaid business to write in support of the State of Arizona's application. I hereby attest to Aetna's commitment to and active engagement in Arizona's application for Test Funding for the State Innovation Models (SIM) award.

In Arizona, the AHCCCS program has been an industry leader in health innovation and healthy policy. AHCCCS' strong leadership has successfully promoted many initiatives to transform the healthcare industry. The program's success has also relied on its roots as a public/private partnership, which dates back to the beginning of the Medicaid program in Arizona. All of these factors, in addition to serving a critical mission, are reasons why Aetna supported Medicaid restoration and expansion in Arizona. In fact, Mark Bertolini, the chairman, chief executive officer and president of Aetna, personally wrote in support of these efforts, as did I.

Aetna is committed to actively drive health delivery transformation to yield better health outcomes and lower costs. We are uniquely positioned to observe the State's efforts in this regard, administering on behalf of the plan sponsors both Mercy Care Plan, the only not-for-profit Medicaid plan in the State, and the new regional behavioral health authority, Mercy Maricopa Integrated Care, also a not-for-profit. We are strongly committed to innovation as we provide access to quality health care for members in both entities; however, we find too often that those efforts encounter extra challenges as a result of siloed public and private systems. (Perhaps the best evidence of the State's commitment

was in last year's behavioral health procurement for Maricopa County; Arizona is bringing real integration of care to Maricopa County residents who have been diagnosed with Serious Mental Illness. As we have enthusiastically promoted the program, there is no question that the integration efforts have been made much more difficult by the lack of coordination of data and technological resources.)

You will have letters of support from Mercy Care Plan and Mercy Maricopa so I will not go into greater detail here. But I do want to emphasize the unique situation that exists in Arizona--where both the State (particularly AHCCCS and the Arizona Department of Health Services, Behavioral Health Division) are strongly committed to innovation, as are many of the entities involved in providing access to care. Although all the parties are aligned and mutually driven, the challenges come because the resources to bridge the gaps and overcome the obstacles are not sufficient.

Aetna strongly supports this grant and many other statewide efforts to bring improvement to the system, including the Governor's Medicaid Restoration Plan, the State Health Improvement Plan and the efforts of the public-private partnership, the Arizona Health-e Connection.

Aetna firmly believes this proposal will advance the public-private efforts to integrate physical and behavioral health, coordinate between providers and payers and connect the consumers and their family members to the knowledge they need to make better decisions about their health care. Our work will be furthered by the SIM process, and we are committed partners in that process.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Pamela Sedmak', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Pamela Sedmak  
President and CEO  
Aetna Medicaid  
602-659-1160